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11/21/2013 Minutes

VISION 2020 FISCAL RESOURCES TASK GROUP
Meeting Minutes 11/21/13
2nd Flr Conference Room - Senior Center

ATTENDEES: Gordon Jamieson (Co-Chair), David Garbarino (Co-Chair), Heather Remoff, Brian Hasbrouck, Dave Rogers (MA House Representative), Pete Howard (Secretary)

MASTER PLAN: The meeting was devoted to a review of the Draft Master Plan Interim Report. This document is posted on the Town web site. Pete brought a hard copy. Others used their cell phone to access the document. Our objective was to understand and evaluate the document based on our previous studies with the goal of supporting or improving the master plan project.

GOALS: We found the goals to be largely non-controversial. Most have been in place for years. There seem to be no serious oversights. We believe the important thing will be how the plan would implement the goals and with what priority.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: We believe that this is a large and useful compendium of data that has not been available before in one place. We are especially pleased with the maps in the public presentation of the draft plan that was also posted. We hope that these maps, especially the land use map, will be included in the plan.

We discussed income distribution in the section 1 and its relationship to passing overrides. We discussed mixed use zoning. Dave Rogers will look into this matter to see if there may be state resources we could use to become better informed. We noted that the plan lacks school quality information. The Department of Health and Human Services is not mentioned. The plan lacks an appreciation of the role volunteers play in Arlington governance. Perhaps these topics are beyond the usual master plan scope. We touched on many other matters.

ACTION: Pete will draft a letter to the Planning Director detailing our suggestions. He will provide it by email for review by attendees. After incorporation of comments, he will make a clean copy for signature by the co-chairs & delivery to the Planning Dept.

NEXT MEETING: Dec 19 - The main topic will be the Financial Plan - Meetings held monthly, 3rd Thursdays, Senior Center 2nd Flr Mtg Room.